SIKKIM

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

EXTRAORDINARY
PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

Gangtok | **Friday 24th March, 2006** | **No. 73**

GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL, ADM REF., TRG, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES CARRER OPTIONS & EMPLOYMENT, SKILL DEVELOPMENT AND CHIEF MINISTER'S SELF EMPLOYMENT SCHEME
GANGTOK

NO: 251 /GEN/DOP **Dated: 14 /03/2006**

NOTIFICATION

1. Whereas Sikkim is endowed with rich natural resources where more than 550 varieties of rare orchids, 36 types of Rhododendrons and more than 4000 types of flowering plants are found and whereas the State is also rich in horticultural crops such as Cardamom, Ginger, Potato, Orange, Pear, Passion Fruit, etc.

2. And whereas the departments and organizations of the State Government are dealing with various issues relating to horticulture including floriculture, yet an urgent need is felt to coordinate, strengthen and establish linkage between activities taken up by research institutes, individual growers, farmers, cooperative, self-help groups, beginning from marketing intelligence, adopting suitable technologies and value addition measures to marketing of the horticultural and floricultural products on commercial lines as an industry for sustainable development.

3. Now, therefore, the State Government hereby constitutes a State level apex body, namely Sikkim State Horticulture Mission, to look after policy formulation, execution and coordinate with various Departments/ Organizations, NGOs and others for ensuring sustained supply of cultivable plants to the farmers and entrepreneurs and to coordinate all matters relating to development, sustainable use and full exploitation of export potentialities of various orchid species and other flowering plant species and horticultural products that can be propagated using biotechnology. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be the nodal agency in the State for making concerted efforts for development and extension of technological advances for cultivation through micro-propagation in the field of horticulture and floriculture for the benefit of the masses in the State by full exploitation of market potential.

4. The objectives of the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be as follows:-

(i) To encourage the development of high quality horticultural and floricultural enterprises in identified areas suited for the purpose, which will act as hubs for growth of horticulture and floriculture in the State.

(ii) To encourage the village community towards raising of fruits, vegetables, spices and flowers in place of traditional crops production of horticultural products and flowers from plantlets and make the exercise full participatory and transparent.

(iii) To institutionalize the skill building process with the long term goal of creating maximum number of self employment opportunities outside the traditional sectors using latest techniques and technologies for horticulture and floriculture.

(iv) To provide sustainable and assured employment opportunities to the poor and economically weaker sections of the rural populations all round the year;

(v) To arrest and reverse the trend of loss of gene pool of orchid species due to the unsustainable removal from its natural habitats;

(vi) To assist Research & Development programmes to develop products suited for specific varieties with improved methods and technology:

(vii) To develop and strengthen marketing facilities with the help of Government organizations/NGOs and Local Entrepreneurs

(viii) To promote greater and more efficient private sector investment in market infrastructure:

(ix) To strengthen Marketing Intelligence System through improvement of the capacity to access and use market information and intelligence for guiding production and marketing strategies of farmers and entrepreneurs

(x) To appropriate dissemination of information about available technologies to both farmer & entrepreneurs, to address the specific problems of farmers and entrepreneurs to suitable technologies and knowledge services that address specific business problems and contribute to lower the cost of production and increase value addition:

(xi) To strengthen linkage among farmers, entrepreneurs, service providers (from Public, Private and NGO sectors) and markets in the selected value chains:

(xii) To develop post-harvest management infrastructure.

5. The Members of the Mission shall be as under:-

a)	Chief Secretary, Government of Sikkim	Chairman
b)	Addl. Chief Secretary cum Development Commissioner, Government of Sikkim,	Vice-Chairman
c)	Principal CCF cum Secretary, Forest, Wild Life & Environment Management Department	Member
d)	Secretary, Science and Technology Department	Member
e)	Secretary, Food Security & Agriculture Development & Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
f)	Secretary, Rural Development Management Department	Member
g)	Secretary, Social Justice, Empowerment & Welfare Department	Member
h)	Secretary, Cooperation Department	Member
i-j)	Two representatives of Horticulture and Floriculture Industries	Members
k)	One representative of Flower Grower Association of India	Member
l)	Dr. M.M.Dawn, Adviser, Floriculture, Horticultural & Cash Crops Development	Member
m)	Principal Director, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
n)	Principal Secretary (PIME-NDC)	Member Secretary

6. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall also have an executive body consisting of Principal Director, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department as the Chief Executive Officer; Director, Horticulture as the Member Secretary, who shall function as State Nodal Officer and the Accounts Officer Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department, shall be responsible for day to day functioning of the Mission.

7. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission Shall have a Technical Advisory Group comprising of the following for consultations and advice regarding research, assessing demand and supply position for export of various species and various other aspects of functioning related to development of horticulture and floriculture with particular reference to orchid, other flowers and fruits cultivation:-

i).	Shri S.T. Lachungpa, IFS Additional PCCF, Forest, Wild Life & Environment Management Department	Chairman
ii).	Shri S.B.S. Bhaduria, IFS, CCF, Forest, Wild Life & Environment Management Department	Member
iii)	Shri K.K.Singh, Director, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
iv)	Shri Khorlo Bhutia, Additional Director, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
v)	Director/Scientist In-charge, ICAR, Gangtok	Member
vi)	Director/Scientist In-charge, NORC, Pakyong	Member
vii)	Shri D.K. Bhandari, Floriculturist, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
viii)	Shri Padam Subba, Deputy Director, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
ix)	Accounts Officer, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member
x).	Shri Phurba Tshering Bhutia, Addl. Director (Fruit), Horticulture & Cash Crops Development Department	Member Secretary

8. The existing State Level Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) established under the Technology Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture along with its Mini Missions (MM) shall be deemed to be a part and parcel of the State Horticulture Mission. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall have authority to raise resources from State Government, Central Government and other sources of funding.

9. The Horticulture Department, which undertakes more than 98% of activities relating to Vegetable, Fruit and Floriculture related activities in the State shall be the lead Department under Sikkim State Horticulture Mission with the other Departments taking up horticultural activities viz. Forest, Rural Development, Social Welfare, Cooperation and Science & Technology, to ensure that seedling, planting material and suckers being used by them are from sources/ nurseries cleared/ certified/ verified by the State Horticulture Department, so as to ensure quality control. The Departments taking up horticultural activities shall ensure that the activities do not overlap i.e. one Department is not to take up a particular activity in a locality or area where other Department is doing so. A similar precaution to be exercised in selection of beneficiary by the Department.

10. The expenditure on individual members of the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall be borne by the respective Departments of the State Government. In respect of non government members, the expenditure shall be borne by the lead department under Sikkim State Horticulture Mission. The financial assistance

received from the State Government, Central Government, or any other funding/donor agency shall be kept in the account approved by the State Government already for the Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium under the Technology Mission for the Integrated Development of the Horticulture and operated accordingly by the State Nodal Officer and the Account Officer of the Horticulture Department.

11. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall utilize the in-house facilities and manpower available with the Department of Forest, Wild Life & Environment Management, Horticulture & Cash Crops Development, Science & Technology, Rural Development Management, Cooperation, Social Justice Empowerment & Welfare Departments and these departments shall assist and extend all such facilities as necessary and required by this Mission.

12. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall promote cooperative efforts amongst growers and assist them to raise, transport and market their product.

13. The Sikkim State Horticulture Mission shall have full administrative powers to approve all the schemes and work programmes. The accounts of Sikkim State Small Farmers Agribusiness Consortium (SFAC) shall be open to audit by the Charted Accountant and the audited report, utilization certificate and progress of work for the previous year should be prepared and placed before the State level Body of Sikkim State Horticulture Mission in the subsequent year. The responsibility for organizing the meetings of Sikkim State Horticulture Mission and its associated bodies shall be that of the lead department.

14. The Members of the Sikkim State Horticulture Mission, the Executive Body and the Technical Advisory Group shall be governed by the rules of the State Government as prescribed from time to time.

BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR.

SPECIAL SECRETARY-DOP